

REMARKS

The following Amendment is submitted to put the claims into the form that existed following entry of the Amendment After Final Accompanying Request for Continued Examination dated March 23, 2004, and prior to entry of the Examiner's amendment that accompanied the Notice of Allowance dated August 11, 2004. Applicants note that canceled claims 16, 22 and 23 (corresponding to pending claims 55, 61 and 62) were withdrawn from consideration by the previous Examiner. Claims 55, 61 and 62 have been identified as "new" in the attached listing of claims because Applicants believe that this is the correct identifier for all new claims. Applicants apologize if this assumption is in error, and the new claims should also be indicated as "withdrawn."

Applicants state for the record that they did not wish to amend the claims as shown in the Examiner's amendment. Due to a miscommunication between the Applicants and Applicants' representative in the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Applicants' representative accepted the proposed Examiner's amendment without authority from the Applicants. Accordingly, this Amendment and the accompanying Request for Continued Examination are presented to permit further prosecution of the claims as they existed prior to entry of the Examiner's amendment.

Applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. If the Examiner maintains the position that the pending claims are not allowable, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner indicate the statutory basis for requesting that the claims be amended.

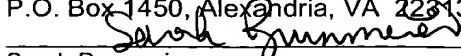
Respectfully submitted,



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